



**Te Kura o Otari
Otari School**

News

Inspiring a love of learning through an education that values the development of the whole child.

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Nau mai, haere mai ki te Kura o Otari

Teacher Strike Action - Unless there is a settlement, Primary School teachers and principals throughout New Zealand will be participating in rolling strikes next week. The Wellington region is planning to strike on **Friday 16 November**. All teachers at Otari School and the principal, will be striking.

What are teachers campaigning for?

- Smaller classes, so our children can get more one-on-one attention
- More resources and staffing to adequately support children with additional learning needs - this will benefit all children because teachers will be freed to spend more one-on-one time with every student
- A significant increase in teachers' salaries so that they are properly valued for their qualifications and responsibilities and as a country we can recruit and retain teachers.

We appreciate support on this important issue. For more information, please go to <http://campaigns.nzei.org.nz/time/>.

From the Board of Trustees: School Closure on Friday 16 November for NZEI strike
Dear Whanau

As you will have heard through the media, principals and teachers throughout New Zealand will be conducting rolling strikes. The Wellington strike will be on Friday, 16 November. The principal and teachers at Otari will be taking strike action on that day.

The Board has carefully considered the availability of teaching staff and as we will not be able to provide the normal teaching services during the strike we have resolved to close the school.

It's important that you make alternative arrangements for the care of your child/children on the day of the strike.

Thank you for your understanding.

Yours sincerely

Maria Borshevsky

Chair Board of Trustees

Celebrations and Festivals - Diwali, the festival of lights, is one of the most significant festivals in Indian culture. Millions of people attend firework displays, prayers and celebratory events across the world.

The festival, coinciding with the Hindu New Year, is celebrated by Hindus, Sikhs and Jains for a variety of reasons, although the main theme which runs throughout is the triumph of light over darkness and good over evil.

The actual day of Diwali is traditionally celebrated on the festival's third day, which this year falls on 7 November. The festival usually falls between the middle of October and the middle of November, although this is decided upon by the Hindu lunar calendar. While each faith has its own reason to celebrate the festival, one of the most popular stories told is the legend of Lord Rama and his wife Sita, returning to their kingdom in northern India from exile after defeating the demon king Ravana in the 15th century BC.

How is Diwali celebrated? The festival is marked by large firework displays, the lighting of traditional earthen divas (candles) and the decorating of houses with colourful rangoli artworks - patterns created on the floor using coloured rice or powder. During Diwali, families and friends share sweets and gifts and there is also a strong belief in giving food and goods to those in need. It is also traditional for homes to be cleaned and new clothes to be worn at the time of the festival.



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Happy Diwali



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Musical Instruments - Do you have musical instruments not being used that could be donated to the school? We would be happy to receive them.

Sunhats - Please ensure your child has a hat at school every day.

Immersion Strand Whānau Hui is tomorrow, Wednesday 7 November. Shared kai at 5.30pm, hui starts at 6pm.

Helpers Morning Tea - Wednesday 7 November. Tomorrow the staff are hosting a morning tea for all our wonderful helpers. If you have helped with transporting, reading to children, fundraising, coaching or many other numerous ways, please join us at 10.30am in the hall.

Te Taonga Horomata: Hautoa. Virtue: Courage

At times we need courage to accept the truth and to pick ourselves up after a mistake, ready to make amends and try again. Courage gives me the strength to make this journey with all my heart.

"It takes courage to examine your life and to decide that there are things you would like to change, and it takes even more courage to do something about it". Sue Hadfield

Upcoming Events Calendar:

Activity	Who's Involved	Date & Time	Cost
Helpers Morning Tea	Helpers	Wed 7 Nov, 10.30am	
WZ Athletics	Selected students	Fri 9 Nov	
Immunisations	Yr 8s	Tues 13 Nov	
Immersion Strand Yr 8 Farewell	Immersion strand	Fri 30 Nov	
Pack the Bus	Everyone	Wed 5 Dec	
Yr 8 Dinner	Yr 8s	Thurs 6 Dec	TBA
Yr 8 Farewell	Yr 7/8s/ Yr 8 whānau	Fri 7 Dec, 6pm	
Yr 8 Outing	Yr 8s	Tues 11 Dec	

Have a good week everyone.

Ngā mihi nui
Clifford

2019 Term Dates

Term 1	Thurs 7 Feb	Fri 12 Apr
Term 2	Mon 29 Apr	Fri 5 Jul
Term 3	Mon 22 Jul	Fri 27 Sept
Term 4	Mon 14 Oct	Fri 20 Dec

Queens Birthday: Mon 4 June Labour Weekend: Mon 22 Oct

Community Notices: *(Please note: Notices are sent to us. They are not an endorsement)*

St. Anne's Annual Spring Fair - The St. Anne's Annual Spring Fair will be held in the Church/Hall (corner Northland and Randwick Roads) from 9.30am – 1.30pm on Saturday 10 November. There will be lots of children's clothes, books and toys, crafts, plants, lunches, cakes and preserves. Fair contributions will be gratefully accepted – leave in the Church on the back pews in the week leading up to the fair. Please, no adult clothes or household goods this year.

Christmas Collective Market - Wednesday 21 November 7-10pm at St Mary's Church, Karori. Christmas Collective is back! We are bringing top Wellington designers and makers to Karori for one night of Christmas shopping. A raffle running all night to support 'The Key to Life' organisation. Delicious drinks and treats with all money raised going to Karori Bellyful. Get your friends together and make in on the calendar so you don't miss out.

Wellington Diving Club - This term WDC are hosting a FREE "Bring a Friend" day on Sunday 25 November – this will be a great opportunity for families to come down to Kilbirnie Pool, get active and have-a-go. After all that fun there will be some supervised bombing fun off the springboard! Any enquiries, please email admin@wellingtondiving.org.nz

Wadestown Community Carols in the Park – Tues 4 December, 5.30pm, Plunket rooms. Live Band. BBQ Koha. Bring your own picnic. Bring a can for the City Mission or DCM.